

macabre humor, in spite of the horrors, and to inspire other people to great exploits, to work day and night. It was a case of "saving as many people as possible, to snatch as many as possible from the clutches of the murders," as he wrote in a letter in July 1944.

In Wallenberg, passion and compassion lived, side by side, in symbiosis. Both are necessary for action and results. The American Wallenberg Committee has characteristically chosen as its motto the words of Edmund Burke: "All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing".

But for Wallenberg, there was no choice. There is no decision-making process in the face of evil. The phrase "it goes without saying" became Raoul Wallenberg's invisible companion.

He did not question whether he should go to Hungary. He did not ask any questions when he was awakened in the middle of the night in Budapest and took his bicycle to the "Swedish houses". With the streets filled with loudmouthed supporters of the Arrow Cross, who were running amok, raping or trading in human beings. He knew which path he had to walk. He had an unfailing moral compass.

Thus, Raoul Wallenberg also set an example. He was one of us, a man who showed that action is possible and necessary. He showed that we do not always need to be prepared or to take deliberate decisions to do what is right. He showed that we can all rise to the occasion, which can then take over and inspire us to superhuman effort. He showed that powerlessness does indeed exist—but that it can be overcome by tackling one problem at a time and by always working and planning for a better future, for a new sense of fellowship.

One of the books I read describes a long conversation Raoul had with a young girl about the League of Nations. He seemed much more interested in what the League of Nations—the United Nations of that time—should do than in the girl. His sister Nina also noted this.

This episode comes to mind when we look around the world today, searching for a Raoul Wallenberg. He would be needed in Pol Pot's Cambodia, in Idi Amin's Uganda, in the civil wars in Angola and Mozambique, in Somalia in 1992, in the genocide of Rwanda and in the nightmare of Bosnia. Many were there—but were we too few? Were we—were we—onlookers on too great an extent? Where was the action, the passion and "it goes without saying"?

Raoul Wallenberg lives on. We must not give up on our efforts to have a full account of his fate. We had strong expectations that a new, open and truthful Russia would help us achieve this clarity. Let us hope that today's Chechen tragedy will not stop the ultimate triumph of the forces of democracy and openness.

Russia can show that these forces cannot be conquered, either by producing Raoul Wallenberg or the whole truth about him. This can be achieved in the Swedish-Russian Commission which, since 1991, has been systematically examining documents and available information.

The central issue is not the Wallenberg case or affair. It is Raoul Wallenberg as a *human being*. And, in the final analysis, the end of the Cold War should be a matter of focusing on human beings. We should stop viewing nations as pawns on a geopolitical chessboard but instead see them as societies with people who have to right to political freedom, to economic and social justice and to a life in dignity for all.

For me, this is Raoul Wallenberg's message. That is why Raoul Wallenberg lives on.

During his work in Hungary in the reign of terror, in the ghetto and on the streets, he looked the victim in the eye and tried to erase all the power games, all the prejudices and all the hate that encompassed this individual human being.

He saw the forces of evil, but he never gave up the hope, and never stopped taking action.

What more do we need today?

HONORING RONALD MARTELLA

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 2, 2002

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ronald Martella for receiving the 2002 Businessman/Agricultural Leader of the Year Award from the Hughson Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Martella has been an active member of the Hughson community for many years and his dedication is deservedly commended.

Mr. Martella is the current chairman of the California Canning Peach Association. He is also a board member of the Ag Council of California and the Growers Harvesting Committee. Ronald is on the Board of the Hughson Chamber of Commerce and the Hughson Redevelopment Agency.

Ronald currently serves the community through these organizations, but his involvement is not just a recent venture. He volunteered as a fireman for 19 years, is the former chairman of the Hughson Youth Center Board of Directors, and served on Hughson Union High School's Agricultural Steering Committee. Mr. Martella is an active member of his church through his involvement in the Knights of Columbus and the church choir.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ronald Martella for receiving the 2002 Businessman/Agricultural Leader of the Year Award. I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking him for his tremendous service to the community and wishing him many more years of continued success.

IN HONOR OF THE URBAN LEAGUE OF HUDSON COUNTY

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 2, 2002

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Urban League of Hudson County in celebration of its 24th Annual Equal Opportunity Day Awards Dinner Dance on May 3, 2002, at Casino-in-the Park in Jersey City, New Jersey.

Founded in 1971, the Urban League of Hudson County, which is associated with the National Urban League, is a nonprofit community-based organization dedicated to advocating initiatives that allow local residents to participate in the development of their neighborhoods, as well as achieve economic self-reliance.

The Urban League of Hudson County works in association with community groups, as well as government and corporate sponsors. It provides services in the areas of education,

mentorship, economic development, job placement, childcare, family counseling, and programs for senior citizens through the help of its dedicated staff. Programs sponsored by the Urban League include Children's Services, Health and Human Services, Employment and Training, Affordable Housing and Community Development, and Communications and Fund Development.

I strongly believe in the mission of the Urban League, and have successfully obtained grants for the construction of its Workforce Development Center, as well as critical funding for the Affordable Housing and Community Development Corporation, and AmeriCorps. I look forward to continuing my work with the Urban League to fulfill the economic dreams of all our citizens in the 13th, District and across the country. The Urban League continues its work to improve the lives of those less fortunate in our community, and I am proud of their positive impact and dedication.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Urban League of Hudson County for its service to the people of Hudson County. The Urban League's generous and selfless work never goes unnoticed, and I am grateful for all it does.

HONORING THE WEST WARWICK SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL CLASS REPRESENTING RHODE ISLAND IN THE "WE THE PEOPLE . . . THE CITIZEN AND THE CONSTITUTION" COMPETITION

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 2, 2002

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding group of young people from West Warwick Senior High School. These students will represent Rhode Island in the "We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution" Civics Competition being held from May 4–6 here in Washington, DC. The program is administered by the Center for Civic Education and more than 1,200 students from across the United States will participate in this 3-day event. Participants will give presentations on current constitutional issues, and be judged on their depth of understanding and their ability to apply their constitutional knowledge.

The Rhode Island representatives in this year's competition are: Najiya Abdul-Hakim, Janice Abueg, Peter Calci III, Kristin Capaldo, Elizabeth Champagne, Tara Cooney, Tara Czop, Paul DiMartino, Thomas Driscoll, Christopher Ellis, Tinisha Goldson, Kenneth Halpern, Sarah Johnson, Alyssa Lavallee, Robert Martin, Michael Muschiano, Lindsay Nagel, Michael Oulette, Anthony Politelli, Michael Ryan, Kendall Sylvia, Sarah Smith, Corey St. Saveur, Kate Studley, Erin Watson, and Shane Wilcox. The team is led by teacher Marc LeBlanc. I congratulate them all on their success thus far.

It is inspiring to see these young people exercise their knowledge of the fundamental ideals and principles of our government. These principles formed the historical foundation for our way of life, and they provide the framework for the future. I commend the participants from West Warwick High School for